

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
RAIL CORRIDOR SAFETY COMMITTEE**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

October, 2007

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2007

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RAIL CORRIDOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

Membership Roster

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Anne Haley
Attorney for the Committee

James Sperlik
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

The Indiana General Assembly enacted P.L. 28 -2000 (extended by P.L. 114-2005, expiration November 1, 2010) that directed the Committee to do the following:

- (1) Study the safety of rail corridors, including corridors at overpasses, underpasses, and crossings.
- (2) Review railroad safety records.
- (3) Study methods of encouraging cooperation among the railroads, local government, state government, and federal government to enhance the safety of railroads.
- (4) Study other topics as assigned by the legislative council.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met three times during the 2007 interim session on August 31, September 19, and October 17.

The Committee discussed the following issues:

- The measures if any, that the state needs to take to improve rail safety and that would not be preempted by the recent federal rail safety legislation (H.R. 1).
- Requiring railroads to notify local public safety agencies of hazardous materials incidents and the notification procedure that railroads currently follow.
- The overall safety of transporting hazardous materials by rail.
- Restricting access to rail yards, rail cars (including tank cars carrying hazardous waste), and unmanned locomotives. Increasing criminal penalties for rail yard trespass with intent to do harm.
- Security measures already implemented by railroads including emergency plans, training of employees, and physical access barriers such as locomotive locking mechanisms.
- The role of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security in providing critical infrastructure preparedness and planning.

The Committee is not required to file a final report. For further details, meeting minutes for the Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.